



2013 Deer Trustee Report

Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

1 of 2

Action Team: Regulations & Season Structure	Hunting Regulations, Seasons, & Bag Limits B.8.
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted	Deer Trustee Report Page 30

This document shows the original Deer Trustee Report recommendation that the Public Action Team considered when developing proposals for implementing the recommendation in Wisconsin. The Public Action Team's implementation proposal is presented then followed by additional background information.

I. ORIGINAL DEER TRUSTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATION

B.8. Re-evaluate the effectiveness of the October antlerless seasons in the CWD Zone. Just over 2,000 deer were harvested during the 2011 CWD October hunt. Van Deelan et al. (2006) reported that harvest during antlerless-only hunts such as the October hunt is additive to that taken during other seasons. Analyses presented in the CWD section of this report are counter to this conclusion. With this level of harvest, it is questionable if the additive effect of harvest in the October hunt is worth the concerns of hunters about the impacts of this hunt on deer behavior during the 9-day November gun season. We recognize the challenges of WDNR and most state wildlife agencies in managing overabundant deer herds through regulated hunting as discussed by Holsman (2000) and Vercauteren et al. (2011), but this gesture would increase focus on the opening day of the 9- day gun season that many hunters desire. The youth, archery, muzzleloading, and other antlerless seasons would remain unchanged.

II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

Revised 6-29-13

1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- Should not have an annual October antlerless hunt in the CWD zone. The DNR shall retain the emergency rule process to have an October (early season) hunt if needed. Reasons to constitute an emergency rule shall be due to areas with overpopulation, CWD presence and other disease presence such as Tuberculosis or high crop damage, high car killed deer numbers, and the DNR shall utilize the science group metrics prior to an emergency rule. If the October hunt is authorized under the emergency rule process than the early antlerless only hunt in the CWD zone can take place on public and private properties.

2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

- Revisions added 6/29/13
- Areas with overpopulation, CWD and other disease such as TB, CWD presence, high crop damage, high car killed deer all constitute an emergency rule was supported (14 yes 0 no)
- Utilize science group metrics to constitute an emergency rule was supported (7 yes 1 no)
- Allow DNR to manage the deer herd while utilizing public participation statewide (12 yes, 2 no)
- Topics discussed 5/18/13
- A recommendation that we should have an annual October antlerless season in CWD zone was not supported.



Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

- A recommendation that the WDNR shall retain the process through emergency rule to have the ability to establish a CWD antlerless season was supported
- A recommendation to establish an early (prior to Oct 15) antlerless only hunt through the emergency rule process on private land in CWD zone was supported.

3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- Keeping October hunt may lead to a conflicting situation – similar to “earn a buck”
- This past fall was the first season of archery hunt without an October gun hunt since 2002. Information from previous years to determine if the harvest is additive was shown and supported by the team.

4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- No comments submitted by the Team.